

Appl. No. 09/745,702
Atty. Docket No. 8384
Amdt. dated August 20, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 20, 2004
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraphs on page 4 line 1.

Figure 1A is an elevation view of another embodiment of the portable dispensing device of Figure 1.

Figure 1B is a cross sectional view of the portable dispensing device of Figure 1A showing either an oval or elliptical passageway.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, lines 8-22 with the following paragraph.

The portable packaging device 10 comprises a body 20 and a casing 14. The body 20 is formed of an inner core 22 having an inlet opening 23 and an outlet opening 24, with a passageway 25 there between. The article 100 to be packaged is inserted into the device 10 through the inlet opening 23, passes through the passageway 25, during which it is enclosed in the tubular sheet to form the packaged article 105, and is removed from the device 10 through the outlet opening 24. The cross-sectional shape of the passageway 25, or the shape of either or both the inlet opening 23 and outlet opening 24, can be circular, or can be preferably oval or elliptical as shown in Figures 1A and 1B. It has been found that an outlet opening and at least a portion of the passageway that are oval or elliptical can accommodate the human hand more readily than a circular shape. The passageway can be cylindrical, wherein the axis along the passageway is a straight line, or elbowed, wherein the axis along the passageway is curved or non-linear. The selection of the shape and orientation of the passageway and openings can depend on design and aesthetic considerations of the use of the device.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, lines 8-12 with the following paragraph.

To facilitate the convenient handling of the device by hand, and to carry it about, the device can optionally ~~comprising~~ comprise a handle 120 (as shown in Figure 1) either integrally formed with or detachable from the casing 14 or body 20 of the device. The device can also comprise a mounting element for removably securing the device to a corresponding receiver element positioned on a wall, tabletop, etc.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, lines 13-17 with the following paragraph.

~~To facilitate the convenient handling of the device by hand, and to carry it about, the device can optionally comprising a handle 120 (as shown in Fig. 1) either integrally formed with or detachable from the casing 14 or body 20 of the device. The device can also comprise a mounting element for removably securing the device to a corresponding receiver element positioned on a wall, tabletop, etc.~~

To facilitate grasping and holding of the device during transport or use, the outer surface of the casing 14 can be covered with an anti-slip material, such as a rubber coating. The outer surface of the casing can also be formed with ribs, ridges, nubs, protrusions, or other surface aberrations to facilitate an improved grip with less slippage in the hand.